

PRESCRIPTION WRITING FORMATS FOR NURSE PRACTITIONERS AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

This year, the Tennessee General Assembly passed Public Chapter 259, which standardizes the prescription-writing format for Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants.

Every prescription issued by a physician assistant or a nurse practitioner shall be entered in the medical records of the patient and shall be written on a preprinted prescription pad bearing the name, address, and telephone number of the supervising physician and of the physician assistant or nurse practitioner, and the physician assistant or nurse practitioner shall sign each prescription so written.

Where the preprinted prescription pad contains the names of more than one (1) physician, the physician assistant or nurse practitioner shall indicate on the prescription which of those physicians is the primary supervising physician by placing a check mark beside or a circle around the name of that physician.

Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners are no longer required to sign the name of their supervising physician.

The name of the prescriber (physician assistant or nurse practitioner) should be on the dispensing label of the prescription rather than the name of the supervising physician.